

1 General Information

1.1 Name and address of site. **Woodgate .**

1.2 Site location. **16 ' Burbage Neighbourhood Plan Environment Proposals' map. SP441937.**



1.3 Who is proposing site for designation. **Burbage Parish Council.**

1.4 Site ownership, if known. Details on land ownership can be obtained from the Land Registry. To note land parcels may not be registered, however local people may know the owner. **Leicester Diocese.**

1.5 As the owner of the land been made aware of the potential designation? **The owner will be informed during the Neighbourhood Plan Submission Public Consultation period.**

1.6 Land owner support of the designation? **No representation was received from the owner during the Neighbourhood Plan Pre Submission Public Consultation period.**

1.7 Photographs of site



View looking north from Woodgate Road towards wet woodland around field pond.



View from the Coppice.



Common Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) ‘may be considered a veteran specimen’ (LRERC for Arboricultural report March 2013 Tree T30). SP 44106 93819 (Northern edge of hedgerow).



View from north of the Swamp/Flood Meadow.

1.8 This potential Local Green Space serves which community. **Single track road and public footpath runs along the southern edge, additionally viewable from The Coppice and residential housing.**

2 Planning History

2.1 Any current planning application for this site? If planning permission granted could part of the overall site still be used as a Green Open Space? **No**

2.2 Has this site been allocated for development in the Local Plan? Could part of the overall site still be used as a Green Open Space if allocated? **Yes.**

3 Area, scale, size and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space (LGS)

3.1 Proposed site area. **1.3 ha.**

3.2 Can the proposed LGS site be considered an “extensive tract of land”? **Small size area surrounded by grassland.**

3.3 Can this proposed LGS been considered “local in character”, if so why? **Yes, located adjacent to Woodgate Road and track/public footpath. Well regarded by the local community as the initial open countryside on route to SSSI Burbage Woods.**

Evidence by the individual wildlife reports submitted through the 2013 Parish Council Candidate Local Wildlife Site (cLWS) application appendix A. Additionally by support from the 3 local schools appendix B.

Evidence by the ongoing ecological reports supplied by the local community via www.NatureSpot.org.uk - Woodgate site.

Evidence from Burbage Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Questionnaire 'Our Village - Our Choice' 2015. Q7 What do you enjoy about living in Burbage. 83.55% said Easy access to the Countryside.

4 Need for local green space

4.1 Is there a need for a local green space in this location? **Yes due to close proximity of this cLWS to residential areas and well used access route to SSSI Burbage Common and Woods. Community involvement with reports to NatureSpot. The LGS being within a specifically targeted NatureSpot site.**

5 Evidence to indicate the proposed LGS is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves”

5.1 How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site less than 2km of the community it serves ? **See 3.3.**

5.2 Any obstacles or barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? **Viewable from residential housing, The Coppice and Woodgate Road public footpath.**

6. What evidence is there to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community”

6.1 What evidence of support from Parish or Town Council. **Parish Council have approved the submission of the Burbage Neighbourhood Plan that identifies the site as a local green space.**

6.2 Any evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. **Parish Council cLWS application report (June 2013) appendix A Local residence evidence of support. Also appendix B letters of support from 3 local schools.**

Parish Council Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Questionnaire 'Our Village - Our Choice' 2015 Q9 Do you think that the Countryside around Burbage is important to its distinctive character 96.76% said yes and Q8 Do you use the Countryside 93.47% said yes.

The local community have since 2013 continued ongoing ecological recording of this site via www.NatureSpot.org.uk. - 'Woodgate' a specifically designated 'NatureSpot' site.

6.3 Any evidence of support from community leaders. **Not aware of any.**

6.4 Show any evidence of support from other groups. **www.NatureSpot.org.uk allocated this site as part of the 'Woodgate' Naturespot for ecological recording. Parish Council cLWS application report (June 2013) appendix B letters of support from 3 local schools.**

7 Is there any evidence of natural beauty for this proposed LGS holds a particular local significance; (if applicable)

7.1 Is this criteria relevant to this site? **Parish Council cLWS application report (June 2013) see photographic evidence.**

7.2 Why does the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty. **See 7.1 and 12.1**

7.3 Site visibility. **Viewable from residential housing, The Coppice and Woodgate Road public footpath.**

7.4 Any landscape or similar designations for proposed LGS? e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area Further information –Natural England. **Part of HBBC Green Wedge, Biodiversity Improvement Area, area of TPO's and a part of cLWS, see separate citation held at LRERC (also Plan4Burbage Topic paper section) .**

7.5 Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? **See 7.1 and cLWS report.**

7.6 Does the site contribute to the setting of any special feature or historic building? **Not aware of any.**

7.7 Is the site highlighted in art or literature? **Not aware of any.**

8 Is there any historic evidence to show the proposed LGS holds a particular local significance; (if applicable)

8.1 Any criteria relevant to this site? **Long established (in excess 100 years) Field Pond referred to in Appendix A Local evidence of Parish Council cLWS application report.**

8.2 Are there any historic remains or buildings on the proposed LGS? **No.**

8.3 Evidence of important historic landscape features? e.g.; ancient trees; historic ponds; old hedgerows or historic garden features. Further information may be available English Heritage or local history society. **Veteran tree Common Alder (Alnus glutinosa) LRERC fber arboricultural assessment March 2013 tree T30 located SP441938 (northern corner). Field pond indicated on maps from 1904.**

8.4 Has this proposed LGS been involved with the historic development of the village or town? **No.**

8.5 Did any important historic events take place on the site? **None**

8.6 Any evidence of historic rituals at this site? **None.**

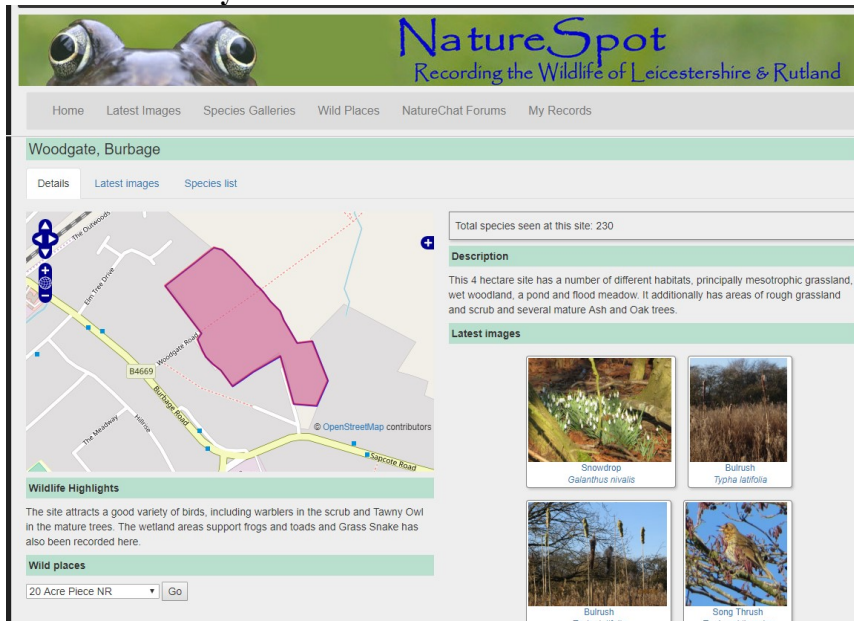
9 Is there any recreational value evidence to show that the proposed LGS holds particular local significance; (if applicable).

9.1 Is this criteria relevant to this site? **No**

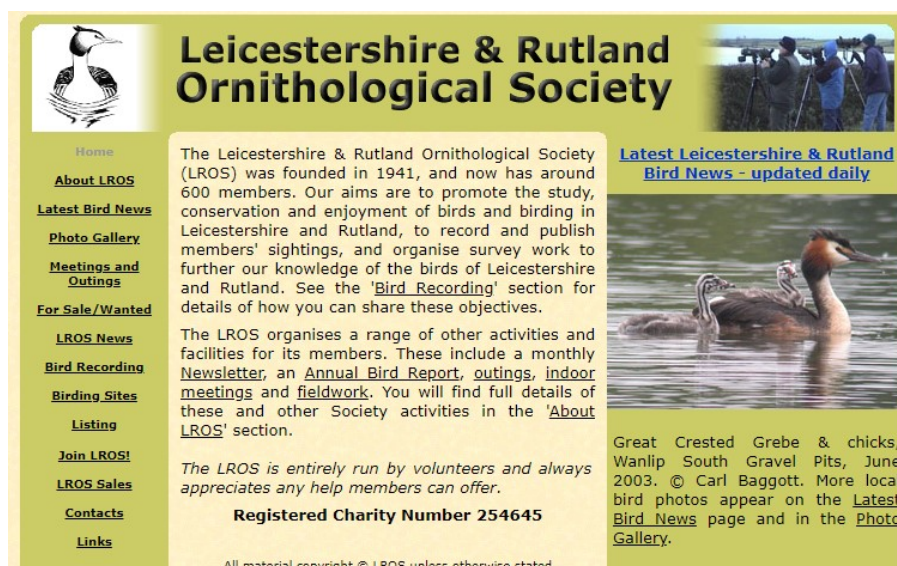
9.2 Is the site used for playing sport? **No**

9.3 Can public physically access this site? Either via rights of way across or adjacent? Has this access been allowed on a formal or discretionary basis? Is there disabled access to the site? (To note a site can still be designated even if there is no public access.) **Yes – adjacent see 5.2**

9.4 Does the local community use the site for informal recreation? And since when? **www.NatureSpot.org.uk allocated this site as part of the 'Woodgate' Naturespot for ecological recording. Local community records filed back to 2013.**



Woodgate NatureSpot which includes LGS site 16 added to Leicestershire & Rutland Ornithological Society (LROS) database as a significant area for local recording.



Below a sample LROS screen shot including some Woodgate NatureSpot records

LROS Recorder: File Customize View Help

Choose the Month and Year File To Save To:

Enter Records For: Month: **December** Year: **2019** << Use This Month & Year to Save To

Saving Data To: C:\Users\H... DB Records\..._2019.tsv Saving Data As

Enter Data Here

Vernacular Name: **Book** Latin Name: **Corvus frugilegus**

Location: **Woodgate Naturespot - Hindley - Hily & Bos** Grid Reference: **SP441937**

Date of Sighting: **03/12/2019** Set Date to Today

Number: **1**

Comments: No. of Records: **9**

Add Save Records for Email Clear & Start New Records Quit

To Edit Species Number, First Change the Number in the Number Text Box to the Desired Value, and then Double Click in the Number Cell To Edit Comments Select the Comments Cell and Double Click OR Press I for the Species

Species	Taxon	Site	Grid Ref	Observer	Date	Number	Comments
Red Kite	Milvus milvus	Shawell Gravel Pits - Harborough	SP540803		01/12/2019	8	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major	**Woodgate Naturespot - Hindley - Hily & Bos	SP441937		01/12/2019	1	Male
Meadow Pipit	Anthus pratensis	**Woodgate Naturespot - Hindley - Hily & Bos	SP441937		01/12/2019	1	
Redwing	Turdus iliacus	**Woodgate Naturespot - Hindley - Hily & Bos	SP441937		02/12/2019	2	
Buzzard	Buteo buteo	Burbage - Hily & Bos	SP443925		01/12/2019	1	Over town centre
Redwing	Turdus iliacus	**Woodgate Naturespot - Hindley - Hily & Bos	SP441937		03/12/2019	7	
Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	**Woodgate Naturespot - Hindley - Hily & Bos	SP441937		03/12/2019	4	
Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	**Woodgate Naturespot - Hindley - Hily & Bos	SP441937		03/12/2019	6	

10 Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its tranquillity” (if applicable)

10.1 Is this criteria relevant to this site? **Ecological recording by local community.**

10.2 Do you consider the site to be tranquil? **Yes**

10.3 Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? **No**

11 Is there any evidence of richness of wildlife to show that the proposed LGS holds a particular local significance; (if applicable)

11.1 Is this criteria relevant to this site? **Yes see evidence gained to attain cLWS (7.4) plus see ongoing records held at www.NatureSpot.org.uk - site - Woodgate .**



Target note 9 Burbage SP441937 Broad -leaved woodland with canopy of *Alnus glutinosa* with *Fraxinus excelsior* and *Aesculus hippocastanum*. Understorey includes *Viburnum opulus*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Sambucus nigra* and *Prunus spinosa*. Ground quite wet in places. Ground flora includes *Dryopteris filix -mas*, *Galeopsis tetrahit*, *Glechoma hederacea*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Bromopsis ramosa*, *Dryopteris dilatata*. Frequent fallen dead wood. Includes several mature *Alnus glutinosa* with girths around 3m. cLWS

Target note10 Burbage SP440937 Semi -improved neutral grassland with fine sward. Includes *Festuca rubra*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Luzula campestris*, *Lotus corniculatus*, *Stellaria graminea*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Lathyrus pratensis*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Veronica chamaedrys*. Frequent tall herbs and coarse grasses adjacent to east, probably encroaching. cLWS

Eastern part of site is a swamp/wet meadow which is considered a 'rare Leicestershire habitat' (LRERC Dtr John Bailey University of Leicester report July 2013).

11.2 Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? **No.**

11.3 Are any important habitats or species found on the site? **Yes, see 7.4 and reports to attain cLWS status.**

11.4 What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? **NatureSpot reports include presence of Great Crested Newt and Bladderwort (rare water plant).**



October 2019 ecological report (record held at LRERC) indicates an active Badger Settle close by with evidence of trackways, snuffle holes and latrines.

11.5 Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? **See 11.4**

12 Is there any evidence to show that the proposed LGS holds a particular local significance, for any other reason; (if applicable)

12.1 Is this criteria relevant to this site? **Parish Council cLWS application report appendix A Local residence evidence of support. Also appendix B letters of support from 3 local schools.**

12.2 What are the other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community? **cLWS close to north west part of Burbage and adjacent to route used to access SSSI Burbage Common & Woods. Can be considered the commencement of accessing local countryside.**